



Dr. Mario P. Cometti

April 21, 1936 - October 8, 2021

Dr. Mario P. Cometti died on October 8, 2021 in Largo, Florida of complications from a breakthrough case of Covid-19, after a stroke weakened and made him vulnerable. He was 85 years old and was surrounded by family at the time of his passing.

Mario was born April 21, 1936 in Brooklyn, New York, the only child of Italian immigrant parents Mario, a chef and Inez, a dressmaker. He attended Fordham University and moved to Italy in the late 1950s to attend medical school at the University of Bologna. It was there, on a blind date, that he met Josephine (Josie) Faija. He asked her to marry him at the start of their second date - their union would last more than 56 years.

After obtaining his medical degree, Mario and Josie returned to the U.S. and started a family. He interned at a hospital in New York City, before being drafted into the US Air Force in the mid-1960s. He was commissioned as a Captain, serving at Laredo Air Force Base in Texas, completing his service in 1968. He opened his own private practice as a pediatrician in the Catskill and Hudson areas in upstate New York.

In his later years, he traveled across America, working in a variety of locations underserved by the medical community, including several Native American reservations. He retired in Florida, living in St Augustine before relocating to Largo.

He was honest to his core, strong in his faith and always put his family first. He worked hard, laughed and lived with gusto and danced as if nobody was

watching. Dr. Cometti was preceded in death by his wife, Josie and son David and is survived by children, Barbara, Mario, Billy, Steven and Kurt, as well as grandchildren Christopher, David, Isabella, Grace, Pepper and Adeline.

Graveside services, including a celebration of Josie and Mario's lives and United States Air Force Military Honors for Dr. Cometti will be held on Saturday, November 13, 2021, at 10:30 A.M. at the family plot of The St. Patrick's Cemetery, in Jefferson Heights, Catskill, New York.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Richards Funeral Home, 29 Bross Street, Cairo, New York.

Condolences may be made at www.richardsfuneralhomeinc.net.

Previous Events

Graveside and Celebration of Life

NOV 13. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Patrick's Cemetery
37-36 North Jefferson Heights
Catskill , NY 12414

Tribute Wall

JD

“ Dr. Cometti saved my daughter’s life, Amanda, who is now a doctor, by diagnosing her before any of the tests came back. I always enjoyed being around him in the office or at the Catskill country club. He and Josie were a lovely couple. He was a great doctor and a great human being. Judi and Ron DeSilva

Judi DeSilva - November 14, 2021 at 07:43 PM

JG

Loved dr.Commetti he treated my son with pnanomia and call me later at night to check on him great man as a dr and family man!!!

Josephine Greci - January 24, 2022 at 08:59 PM

CM

“ Without a doubt, Josie and Mario Cometti were the most devoted couple I have ever known in my life. Josie would encourage the “fun” and Mario would more than happily join in. Spanning over two decades, Dr. Cometti was pediatrician for both my daughters who absolutely loved him and Josie. Life tumbles forward. I am now in DC part time and unable to honor their devoted and beloved daughter Barbara, and the rest of the family, with in person attendance at the interment tomorrow. My prayers, love, and warm memories are with them now and forever. Love, Connie Melone, Cathy and Jessica



Connie Melone - November 12, 2021 at 02:48 PM

CF

“ Dear Cometti Family: Dr. Cometti was a wonderful Dr. and friend to my wife and my children. He told you like it was and always so caring in his own way. A very special man ! A guest of mine needed emergency surgery in the middle of the night, I would not let them operate until Dr. Cometti said it was ok, this was at 2:30 in the morning, the operation was successful. I always respected him as a person and great doctor! He was a great man and will now enjoy his heavenly life with his wonderful wife, Josie. May they rest in peace!

Charlie ,Frances Serro & Family - November 11, 2021 at 05:15 PM

BW

“ Betty White lit a candle in memory of Dr. Mario P. Cometti



betty white - November 10, 2021 at 11:06 AM

RN

“ As far as I am concerned Dr. Cometti walked on water. He saw my children through everything from chicken pox to a rabid bat situation. He sat up all night with my two year old in the ICU. I was lucky to have kept in touch with him after he moved to Florida, and looked forward to every letter I received. I shall miss my friend terribly.

Roberta Nicholson - November 09, 2021 at 04:50 PM



“ *So very sorry for your loss. Dr Cometti was a great man and excellent pediatrician. My children and grandchildren were all cared for by him. Was very sorry when he retired. We lost a great doctor. My condolences to the family.*



Diane Berg - October 30, 2021 at 08:12 PM

KW

“ Dr Cometti Oh what can I say, he was definitely a force to be reckoned with and I say that in the most endearing terms. When I was a child ,and I am now 50 ,my mother took me to him and he went to give me a shot and I bit him , LOL my mother was never so mortified in her life that she didn't want to bring me back. Many years later I brought my own children to Dr. Cometti, I remember my youngest boy was jaundiced and not very well and had to go back into the hospital. Despite my son being born in Albany Dr. Cometti not only fought for my child to go to-his hospital so he could oversee him , he made sure that I would be admitted along my child's bedside because I was nursing my son, he gave the hospital strict orders to make accommodations for mom. On another visit I was pretty forlorn (my husband had left me with the 2 young boys) and sad and quite ill with the flu. I brought my son in to be examined. Your father, grandfather, sat me down and took one look at me and took my temperature. He instructed me immediately to get on an antibiotic and go home and get some sleep. Then followed up with a phone call.

Your father /grandfather not only looked after my children but looked after me as well and I wasn't even his patient. Reading his obituary he was an amazing man, I wish I had known half of his stories. I love the fact that he could dance as dancing is my passion and I love to do it when no one's watching. God bless, wish you much comfort, and rest in knowing he was a terrific human being. I am now a RN and pride myself in treating my patients with as much dignity as he treated myself and my children. ❤️🕊️

Kara(McElroy) Wager - October 30, 2021 at 09:02 AM

DS

“ Dawn Suttmeier lit a candle in memory of Dr. Mario P. Cometti



Dawn Suttmeier - October 30, 2021 at 08:31 AM



“ 2 files added to the album MEMORIES



Richards Funeral Home of the Mid Hudson Valley Inc. - October 29, 2021 at 11:51 AM

PS

“ Paul R. Seney, Jr. And Staff sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Mario P. Cometti



Paul R. Seney, Jr. and Staff - October 29, 2021 at 10:20 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *United States Flag*



Richards Funeral Home of the Mid Hudson Valley Inc. - October 29, 2021 at
10:14 AM